

Message Text

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73

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 VO-03 SS-15 SP-02 MMS-04 PER-03 ABF-01

RSC-01 /040 W

----- 075213

R 172036Z JAN 75

FM AMEMASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1812

UNCLAS SANTIAGO 0374

E.O.11652:N/A

TAGS: CVIS APER CI

SUBJ: NIV WORKLOAD AND STAFFING PROBLEM

1. AS INDICATED SANTIAGO'S 5266 AND 6477 CONSULAR SECTION IS SUFFERING

FROM EXTREMELY HEAVY NIV WORKLOAD WITHOUT STAFFING CAPABILITY TO COPE WITH REQUIRED SERVICES. THIS CREATING ATTENDANT PROBLEMS OF PUBLIC RELATIONS. AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED, TWO VICE-CONSULS, FROM POL AND ECON, WERE DETAILED TO SECTION IN SEPTEMBER, AS TEMPORARY EXPEDIENT; HOWEVER, VISA DEMAND HAS NOT DECREASED, AND PERMANENT ASSISTANCE IS NOW ESSENTIAL.

2. IN 1974, SECTION PERFORMED 22,200 NIV OPERATIONS (ISSUANCES AND REFUSALS) AS COMPARED TO YEARLY AVERAGE (1971-1973) OF 18,612. THE NIV INCREASE HAS CONTINUED INTO 1975 AND DURING FIRST EIGHT WORKDAYS THE SECTION IS CONSIDERING NIV APPLICATIONS AT RATE 50 0/0 HIGHER THAN THAT OF LAST THREE YEARS.

3. DURING MOST OF 3 PREVIOUS YEARS, SECTION HAD AVAILABLE TOTAL OF APPROXIMATELY 4 MAN-YEARS OF OFFICER TIME WITH 1.7 MAN-YEARS DEVOTED TO NIV FUNCTION. SINCE LATE 1974, SECTION HAS HAD AVAILABLE ONLY APPROXIMATELY 3.3 MAN-YEARS, WITH ONLY 1 MAN-YEAR DEVOTED TO NIV FUNCTION- A STAFF REDUCTION OF MORE THAN 40 0/0 AS COMPARED WITH THE PREVIOUS PERIOD OF LOWER WORKLOAD.

4. SINCE ECON AND POL CANNOT CONTINUE TO RENDER SUPPORT AND THE NIV DEMAND AND WORKLOAD IS MUCH HIGHER THAN OUR PREVIOUS AVERAGES AND

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SHOWS NO SIGN OF DROPPING OFF, THE ONLY FEASIBLE SOLUTION IS THE

ESTABLISHMENT OF A SECOND NIV SLOT ASAP. THE POSITION SHOULD BE ESTABLISHED AT THE FSO-5 OR 6 LEVEL (OR FSS-3 OR 4) TO ASSURE ASSIGNMENT EXPERIENCED CONSULAR OFFICER.

5. EMBASSY STRONGLY RECOMMENDS DEPARTMENT ESTABLISH SECOND NIV OFFICER POSITION AND URGES EARLY ASSIGNMENT OF EXPERIENCED OFFICER.

6. JUSTIFICATION FOR THE SECOND NIV OFFICER POSITION WAS ALSO INCLUDED

IN SANTIAGO'S INCREASE/DECREASE PROGRAM REQUEST N0.5 DATED JANUARY 13, 1975.

7. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE TELEGRAPHIC REPLY.
POPPER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975SANTIA00374
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750019-0921
From: SANTIAGO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750142/aaaabkmx.tel
Line Count: 76
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: WITHDRAWN <10 Jun 2003 by MorefiRH, INA>; RELEASED <17 JUL 2003 by MorefiRH>; APPROVED <17 JUL 2003 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NIV WORKLOAD AND STAFFING PROBLEM
TAGS: CVIS, APER, CI
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006